

Was only member of Congress to tour facility with Administration officials,

talk to Thomson residents Monday afternoon

Washington, DC - Rep. Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) called in to Iowa Public Radio's *The Exchange* today to discuss proposals to move Guantanamo detainees to Thomson Correctional Center in Illinois, the ongoing health care debate and the war in Afghanistan. Braley was the only member of Congress to tour the facility and attend briefings Monday afternoon to discuss the proposal with Administration officials, as well as local elected officials and residents of Thomson, Ill. Thomson is directly across the Mississippi River from Braley's district.

"I wanted to be there on the ground myself to find out what types of security precautions are already in place," Braley said during the interview. "I wanted to speak to representatives from the White House, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Prisons and Department of Defense about the security implications of this proposal and ask the tough questions that are important to my constituents in the First District of Iowa."

"My whole point throughout this conversation has been, everyone needs to take a deep breath, listen to what the plan is, and make sure there's an opportunity for public input so people have the chance to have their concerns addressed."

An audio recording of the full interview is available [here](#). Braley's interview begins at the 24-minute mark.

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